PATENT Docket No.: 03-52273

App. Ser. No.: 10/786,102

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find below a listing of all pending claims. The statuses of the claims are set forth in parentheses. For those currently amended claims, <u>underlined</u> emphasis indicates insertions and strikethrough emphasis (and/or double brackets) indicates deletions.

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (New) A product registration management apparatus comprising:

a product information acquisition unit that acquires product information including a product ID (identification) identifying a product to be registered;

a product information registration unit that registers product information of a shipped product;

a proper registration propriety decision unit that refers the product information registration unit by using the acquired product information, and decides whether or not the acquired product information is to be properly registered in the product information registration unit based on whether or not the acquired product information is registered in the product information registration unit;

a temporary registration condition storage unit that stores temporary registration condition information providing a condition permitting temporary registration of product information; and

a temporary registration unit that temporarily registers the acquired product information when the acquired product information is decided as improper to be registered in the product information registration unit by the proper registration propriety decision unit and when the acquired product information meets the temporary registration condition information.

15. (New) The product registration management apparatus according to claim 14 further comprising

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a decision unit that decides whether a product ID included in a product information registered in the temporary registration unit is a product ID that is registered again in the product information registration unit during a designated temporary registration period, and

a registration migration unit that migrates the product information from the temporary registration unit to the product information registration unit when the decision unit decides the product ID included in the product information is registered again in the product information registration unit during the designated temporary registration period.

16. (New) The product registration management apparatus according to claim 14, wherein

the temporary registration condition information includes at least a product ID identifying a product, and

the temporary registration unit refers the temporary registration condition storage unit by using the product ID included in the acquired product information decided as improper to be registered in the product information registration unit so as to decide whether or not the acquired product information decided as improper to be registered in the product information registration unit is to be temporarily registered in the temporary registration unit, and temporary registers the acquired product information decided as improper to be registered in the product information registration unit, in the temporary registration unit when the product ID included in the improper product information is decided to be properly registered in the temporary registration unit.

17. (New) The product registration management apparatus according to claim 14, wherein

the temporary registration condition storage unit stores temporary registration condition corresponding to a product ID, and

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the temporary registration unit refers the temporary registration condition stored in the temporary registration condition storage unit by using a product ID included in a product information decided as improper to be registered to the product information registration unit, and decides the improper product information to be registered to the temporary registration unit when the product ID included in the improper product information is decided to be properly registered to the temporary registration unit.

18. (New) The product registration management apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising

a registration migration unit that decides whether or not the product ID included in the acquired product information registered in the temporary registration unit is registered in the product information registration unit by referring to the product information registration unit, and that migrates the product information from the temporary registration unit to the product information registration unit when the product ID included in the product information is registered in the product information registration unit.

19. (New) The product registration management apparatus according to claim 18, wherein

the registration migration unit cancels registration of the acquired product information in the temporary registration unit when the product ID included in the acquired product information is not registered in the product information in a designated temporary registration period.

20. (New) A product registration management method comprising: acquiring product information including a product ID (identification) identifying a product to be registered; **PATENT**Docket No.: 03-52273

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referring to a product information registration unit which registers product information of a shipped product, by using the acquired product information so as to decide whether or not the acquired product information is to be properly registered in the product information registration unit based on whether or not the acquired product information is registered in the product information registration unit; and

registering the acquired product information temporarily in a temporary registration unit when the acquired product information is decided as improper to be registered in the product information registration unit by the referring and when the acquired product information meets temporary registration condition information providing a condition permitting temporary registration of product information.

21. (New) A computer readable medium storing a product registration management program for directing a computer to perform a product registration management process comprising:

acquiring product information including a product ID (identification) identifying a product to be registered;

referring to a product information registration unit which registers product information of a shipped product, by using the acquired product information so as to decide whether or not the acquired product information is to be properly registered in the product information registration unit based on whether or not the acquired product information is registered in the product information registration unit; and

registering the acquired product information temporarily in a temporary registration unit when the acquired product information is decided as improper to be registered in the product information registration unit by the referring and when the acquired product information meets temporary registration condition information providing a condition permitting temporary registration of product information.